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Director of Central Intelligence

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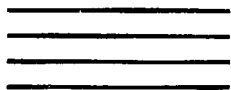
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~~Top Secret~~**Current Notes****EAST ASIA****China:****Political Considerations Delaying Nuclear Test**

Beijing plans to delay its next test until after the US decision on most-favored-nation status for China, which is due by 3 June, [redacted]

[redacted] the test could take place shortly after Washington announces its decision.

[redacted] China has at least five additional tests scheduled. *Although they probably are scheduled to occur before China's planned entry into the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty in 1996, other politically motivated delays or technical failures may lead Beijing to postpone complying with a test ban in order to complete its current weapons development.* [redacted]

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